and 21 Janpath, New Delhi on Raisina Road institutional area to the Ministry of Welfare (now Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment). Out of 5 bungalows allotted, physical possession of the bungalow no. 21, Janpath was taken over in October, 1997 and 15, Janpath in May, 2000. Efforts are being made to taken physical possession of the remaining bungalows and start the Library Project.

Act for Effective Implementation of Provisions of Articles 15(4) and 16(4)

2437. SHRI R.N. ARYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had initiated action to bring about an Act of Parliament for effective implementation of the provisions of Articles 15(4) and 16(4) in the year 1993, as recommended by Dr. Ambedkar Birth Centenary Celebrations Committee;

(b) if so, the progress achieved in this regard since 1993;

(c) the status of the said Reservation Bill as of now; and

(d) the reasons for delay in implementation of the said recommendation, if the said Bill has not yet been enacted as law?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Newsitem "Chiplun Yethil 48 Veth Bigaranchi Muktata"

2438. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Chiplum yethil 48 veth bigaranchi muktata" which appeared in the Marathi daily Maharashtra Times, dated 8th July, 2000; and

?2RSF—23-A

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) The Government have taken action against the alleged employer under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 and the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. In pursuance of this, the alleged Employer has been arrested and also bonded labourers have been released and sent to their native place for rehabilitation.

Loss of Revenue due to Prohibition Policy in Gujarat

2439. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat have been losing revenue due to prohibition policy since its inception;

(b) whether this policy has been enshrined in the Directive Principles of State Policy in the Constitution and the loss is to be compensated;

(c) if so, the reasons for not compensating; and

(d) if not, the reasons as to why Andhra Pradesh is being compensated for the period they declared prohibition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Article 47 of the Constitution of India *inter-alia* directs the State to endeavor to bring about prohibition of consumption, except for medicinal purpose, of intoxicating drinks and drugs which are injurious to health. There is no directive/policy for compensating the loss.

(d) Andhra Pradesh has not been compensated for the loss incurred on implementation of prohibition.